

fallen over. I was interested in the crown of it from a botanical standpoint, and on examining the flowers and leaves I found a half a dozen or more of the snails I so much wanted on the under side of the latter. Then I looked up over head and saw, to my astonishment, that there were thousands of them. I had been walking day by day under a firmament of palms that was literally star-spangled with the pretty *Helicina dysoni*. It was like the story of the navigators who were perishing with thirst while sailing in the fresh water off the mouth of the Amazon.

But finding the *Helicinas* was one thing and getting them was quite another. I tried to shake the trees, but so thickly did they stand that their tops touched each other everywhere, and I might as well have tried to shake the post of a piazza. Then I started to climb one of them, but the hard, sharp fibres of the wood filled my hands and tore my clothes, and I gave that up. I looked for a pole but there was none to be had. The mangrove scrub between me and the sea was all short and crooked, and I found nothing suitable in the heavy tropical forest north of me, so I went home to the ship that night with the dozen or so I had captured, and a few dead shells. The next day I came by way of some clumps of a curious little palm, with slender stems an inch or more in diameter, growing in low ground and crowned with feathery leaves. I found a straight one among these, some 15 or 16 feet long, cut it and trimmed it with my pocket-knife, and when I reached the palm grove I soon had a shower of *Helicinas* falling around me. One soon tires of collecting anything that is very abundant, and in a little while I had all I cared for.

The moral of this little sketch, if it has any, is that in collecting it is necessary to look everywhere, even in the most unlikely places, and my experience has been that the collector who never allows anything to escape his eyes is, as a rule, the most successful.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ACTAEON FROM THE QUATERNARY BLUFFS OF SPANISH BIGHT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

BY ROBERT E. C. STEARNS.

Actaeon Traskii.

Shell small, conical above, rounded below, rather solid, glossy; sculptured by numerous fine impressed lines or grooves which be-

come wider toward the base of the body whorl, making the sculpture of this part of the shell lirate; the liræ sometimes slightly grooved; otherwise sculptured by sharp, close set incremental threads, these are subordinate to the spiral sculpture. Color dull cream-white with two obscure rufous bands on the body whorl. Spire short, obtusely conical; whorls six; sutures distinct, narrowly channelled; aperture about two-thirds the length of the shell, sharply angulated above, rounded and effuse below, finely lirate and glossy within, with a thin glazing on the body whorl. Outer lip simple. Columella short, with a fold curving around to and thickening the edge of the lip below, which is moderately produced.

Length of shell 11 millimetres.

Length of body whorl 9 millimetres.

Breadth 6 millimetres.

The foregoing description is based on a single example in the collection of Mr. Homer Hamlin, of Los Angeles, Cal. The above form was collected by me in the same locality in the fall of 1887 the specimens are now in the U. S. National Museum.

It is a more robust and solid shell than the related species *punctocelatus* Cpr., which occurs in the same locality, and which is found living in many localities along the shore from Monterey, southerly. I have named the above for the late Dr. John B. Trask, one of the founders of the California Academy of Science, and a pioneer in natural history investigations on the West Coast.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 15, 1897.

NOTES ON AGRIOLIMAX.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL.

The accompanying figures were drawn by the writer several years ago, and sent to Mr. W. G. Binney, who kindly had them engraved along with others which were published in the Supplements to Terr. Moll., vol. V. These three, however, were not published, and it is thought well to present them at this time.



Fig. 1 represents the head and anterior part of the mantle of a specimen of *Agriolimax agrestis* (L.) collected by Mr. Pilsbry in Philadelphia in 1889. The mantle is bilobed in front, and the specimen represents the monstrosity *bilobatus* Férussac.